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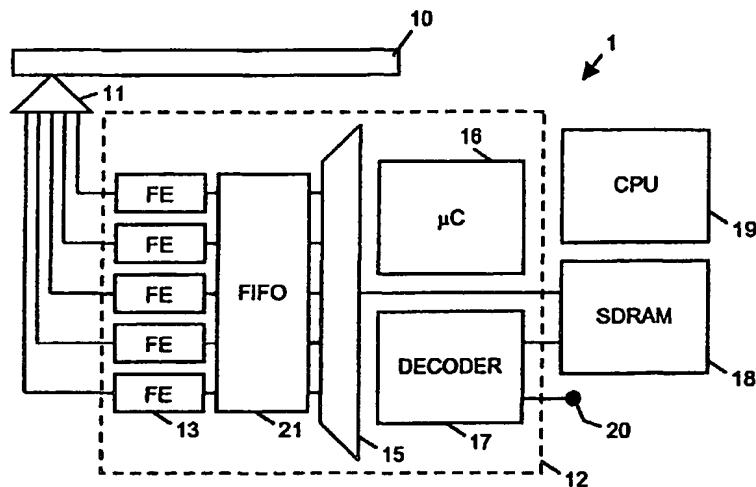
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(54) Title: **MULTITRACK OPTICAL DISC READER**



(57) Abstract: A multitrack optical disc reader (1) is disclosed comprising a multitrack optical pick up (11) for reading data from multiple tracks of an optical disc (10) and outputting the data from each track in respective data streams, and multiple first-in-first-out (FIFO) memories (21) for temporarily storing the data streams. In accordance with the present invention, wherein the pickup may selectively output data streams from less than the maximum number of tracks that can be read by the pickup, the multiple FIFO memories are provided in a common memory bank, and when less than the maximum number of tracks are being read by the pickup, the size of at least one FIFO memory in use is greater than the total available FIFO memory in the common memory bank divided by the maximum number of tracks that can be read by the pickup.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> IPC 7 G11B7/14 G11B20/10		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b> Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 G11B G06F		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 137 763 A (DAHAN SHALOM ET AL) 24 October 2000 (2000-10-24) abstract column 2, line 6 - line 18 column 3, line 25 - column 4, line 16; claims 1,6,21,25	1,2
Y		3
A		5
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.		
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Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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